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CONVENTION OF EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGISTS

The tenth annual conference of Experimental Psychologists was held April 10th to 12th, at Wesleyan University, as the guests of Professor Raymond Dodge. The first two sessions were occupied by the reports of the investigations in progress at the various laboratories represented, about twelve in number. At another session, the directors of several of the larger laboratories gave a résumé of their own work during the last ten years, since the starting of these conferences, and discussed the advances made in the general field of psychology during that time. Some mention was also made of the problems which it seems desirable to attack in the near future.

At one of the sessions there was a lively discussion as to the "Behaviorist" viewpoint recently advanced by Professor J. B. Watson. Those present were surprisingly in accord against such an envisagement of the problems of psychology. Unfortunately Professor Watson was not present to defend his position.

One session was devoted to tests—their theory, value and limitations—in which papers were presented by Dr. F. L. Wells and Dr. H. H. Goddard, although the latter was unable to be present in person. In the discussion, the general opinion seemed to be that the word "test" was a misnomer; as those now applied do not give indications of the degree of mentality of the subjects with any amount of finality. The question of the attitude of the experimentalist towards those who may attempt to apply psychology to business, industry, vocational guidance and similar practical problems, was brought up and discussed in some detail. The general opinion seemed to be that such applications had better come directly from the universities rather than from independent workers on the outside.

Professor Hugo Münsterberg delivered a semi-public lecture on his recent investigation of the mind reading of Beulah Miller, which aroused a great deal of interest.

The social features of the meeting included a luncheon, tendered by the University, and a dinner at the home of Professor Dodge; as well as a smoker at the University. On this latter occasion Professor Dodge demonstrated some of his apparatus, which was most ingenious indeed.

It was decided that the next meeting be held at Columbia University in the spring of 1914.

Clark University.

S. W. FERNBERGER.